Atty. Dkt. No. 040679/1191

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Naoki KACHI et al.

Title:

CATALYTIC CONVERTER WITH MULTILAYERED CATALYST SYSTEM

Appl. No.:

Unassigned

Filing Date:

December 22, 2000

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a <u>prima facie</u> prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

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CONCISE EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of Documents A5 and A6 is described in the present specification. An English translation Document A6 is not readily available; however, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609). An English language abstract is attached to Document A6.

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP § 609.

By

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Schwaab
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Date December 22, 2000

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Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE		ATTY. DOCKET NO.		SERIAL	SERIAL NO. 09/742,428		
(MODIFIED)		PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		040679/1191			Unassigned		
				APPLICANT					
INFO		ON DISCLOSURE	CITATION	Naoki KACHI et al.					
Attach #3				FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT 1755			1755	
(Use several sheets if necessary)				December 22, 2000 Unassigned			ed -		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS SUB- CLASS FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE				
-	A1	5,376,610	12-1994	Takahata et al.	502	66	10		
	A2	5,407,880	04-1995	lkeda et al.	502	67	25. 25.	e e	
	A3	5,439,865	08-1995	Abe et al.	502	333	45.8	22	
	A4	4,975,406	12-1990	Frestad et al.	502	302	190		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
	555	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION		
	REF				CLASS		YES	NO	
	A5	0 716 877	06-1996	Europe					
	A6	7-096183	04-1995	Japan				Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
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* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.									